

thickness of only one hinge leaf, as represented by land portion 24 in FIG. 4.

The two barrel mounting sections 32 and 40 which extend outwardly away from the truck bed and door provide a weather shield that helps to prevent moisture and dirt traveling in the direction of arrow A in FIG. 4 from entering the compartment. This eliminates the need for a separate weather shield adjacent the hinge as has heretofore been required with some prior hinge constructions.

Another advantage of the above-described hinge construction is that with the hinge barrels and point of pivot located in spaced relationship to the bed 10, there is less opportunity for dirt and other foreign material to accumulate in the hinge. This position for the hinge barrels also reduces the opportunity for ice and snow to accumulate in the hinge, making it inoperable. If in extreme weather conditions ice and snow does build up to a point where cleaning is required, this may be done much more readily by virtue of the location of the hinge barrels away from the bed than is possible with some prior art hinge constructions.

Another advantage of the hinge construction of the present invention, which is recognized when the hinge is utilized to mount a horizontally hinged door, such as 16, is that the location of the hinge point spaced away from the bed 10 facilitates closing of the door. This is attributable to the fact that with the hinge point in spaced relationship to the bed, as the horizontally hinged door 16 is lifted the center of gravity of the door weight is transferred from a point outside of the hinge pin 44 to a point inside of the latter before the door is fully closed. Thus as the door is lifted and moved to a point where the center of gravity of the door is inside of the hinge pin, the weight of the door will tend to pull it closed and latched, thereby assuring that it will be positively shut without the necessity for slamming or repeated closings.

Having thus described the invention, I claim:

1. Combination hinge and weather shield construction for use in securing a door to a body, the latter presenting an opening to be closed by the door, and in preventing moisture and dirt from entering the opening, said construction comprising:

a first planar section adapted to be secured to said body outside of said opening and extending along the body for a distance in a direction away from

said opening, said first section being characterized by a plurality of first land portions along its length; a first barrel mounting section extending transversely away from the body and being coupled with said first planar section at the end of the latter removed from said opening;

a plurality of first hinge barrels disposed in spaced apart relationship along said first barrel mounting section;

a second planar section adapted to be secured to said door and extending outside of said opening along the body for a distance in a direction away from said opening, said second section being characterized by a plurality of second cutaway portions separated by a plurality of second land portions, both of said second cutaway and land portions extending along said body,

said second cutaway portions and said second land portions being complementary to said first cutaway portions and said first land portions whereby said cutaway portions on one section receive the land portions of the other section;

a second barrel mounting section extending transversely away from the door and being coupled with said second planar section at the end of the latter removed from said opening;

a plurality of second hinge barrels disposed in spaced apart relationship along said second barrel mounting section; and

a hinge pin received by said first and second hinge barrels.

2. Hinge construction as set forth in claim 1, wherein each of said first land portions extends into said opening and all of said first land portions are interconnecting by a common first web portion spanning said first cutaway portions.

3. Hinge construction as set forth in claim 2, wherein is provided a second web portion extending parallel to said first web portion and interconnecting said first land portions at the opposite sides of the latter from said first web portion.

4. Hinge construction as set forth in claim 3, wherein is included a third web portion interconnecting said second land portions and spanning said second cutaway portions.

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